

THE
HISTORY
OF

Waltham-Abby in Essex,

Founded by

KING HAROLD.

*Patria est ubicunq̃ est bene
Bene vixit, qui bene latuit.*

By THOMAS FULLER, the CURATE thereof.



LONDON,

Printed in the Year, M. DC. LV.

1926
1166

HISTORICAL

OF

THE

STATE

OF

NEW

YORK

AND

THE

ADJUTANT

GENERAL

OF

THE

ARMY

AND

NAVY

OF

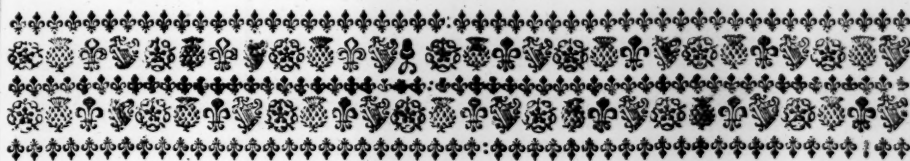
THE

UNITED

STATES

OF

AMERICA



To the Right Honourable,

JAMES HAY,

EARL of *CARLILE*, VISCOUNT *Doncaster*,
BARON of *Sauley* and *Waltham*.



Have formerly in this History presumed to trouble your Honour, and now adventure the second time. Indeed this Treatise containeth the description of your large Demesnes, and larger Royalty and Command. Should I therefore present it to any other, save your self, it would be held as a STRAY indeed, (wandering out of the right way it should go in) and so, (without any thanks to me) would fall to your Lordship, as due unto you by the Custome of your Manor.

Your Honours most obliged

Servant and Chaplain.



Anno
Regis

Anno
Dom.



THE
HISTORY
OF
Waltham-Abby.



Providence, by the hand of my worthy friends, having planted me for the present at *Waltham-Abby*, I conceive, that in our general work of *Abbies*, I owe some particular description to that place of my abode. Hoping my endeavours herein may prove exemplary to others (who dwell in the sight of remarkable Monasteries) to do the like, and rescue the observables of their habitations, from the teeth of time and oblivion.

The Authors
design.

Waltham is so called from the Saxon *Ham*, which is a *Town* (whence the Diminutive *Ham-*

Waltham why
so named.

let) and *weald*, or *wealt*, that is, *woody* (whence the *weald* of *Kent*) it being Anciently over-grown with trees and timber. Thus *Kiriath-jearim*, or the *City of the woods*, in *Palestine*; *Dendros*, an Island in *Peloponnesus* *Sylviacum*, an Ancient City in *Belgia*, got their names from the like woody situation. Some will have it called *Waltham*, quasi *wealshie-Ham*: I wish they could make their words good, in respect of the persons living therein, though in regard of the soil it self, indeed it is rich and plentiful.

The *Town* is seated on the East side of the River *Lea*, which not onely parteth *Hertford-shire* from *Essex*, but also seven times parteth from its self, whose septemfluous stream in coming to the *Town*, is crossed again with so many bridges. On the one side, the *Town* it self hath large and fruitful Meadows (whose intrinsick value is much raised by the vicinity of *London*) the grass whereof when first gotten an head, is so sweet and luscious to Cattle, that they diet them at the first entering therein to half an hour a day, lest otherwise they over-eat themselves, which some Kine yearlie do, and quickly die for it, notwithstanding all their *Keepers* care to the contrary. On the other side a spacious Forest spreads it self, where, fourteen years since, one might have seen whole Herds of *Rd* and *Fallow Deer*. But these late licentious years have been such a *Nimrod*, such an *Hunter*, that all at this present are destroyed, though I could wish this were the worst effect which our woful Wars have produced.

The situation
thereof.

The

Excused from bad air.	The <i>aire</i> of the Town is condemned by many, for over-moist and Aguish, caused by the depressed situation thereof. In confutation of which censure, we produce the many aged persons in our <i>Town</i> , (above threecore and ten, since my coming hither, above threecore and ten years of age) so that it seemes, we are sufficiently healthful, if sufficiently thankful for the same. Sure I am, what is wanting in good <i>air</i> in the <i>Town</i> , is supplied in the <i>Parish</i> , wherein as many pleasant hills and prospects are, as any place in <i>England</i> doth afford.	Anno Dom.	Anno Regis
First Founded by <i>Tovy</i> .	<i>Tovy</i> , a man of great wealth and authority, as being the Kings <i>Staller</i> , (that is, <i>Standard-Bearer</i>) first Founded this Town, for the great delight which he took in the <i>game</i> , the place having plenty of <i>Deer</i> . He planted onely threecore and six in-dwellers therein.		
Falls back to the Crown.	<i>Athelstan</i> , his son, proved a Prodigal, and quickly spent all his Fathers goods and great estate, so that by some transactions the place returned to the Crown.		
Bestowed on Earl <i>Harold</i> .	<i>Edward</i> the <i>Confessour</i> , bestowed <i>waltham</i> , with the Lands thereabouts, on <i>Harold</i> his Brother-in-law, who presently built and endowed therein a <i>Monastery</i> , whereof nothing at this day is extant, save the <i>west end</i> , or body of the Church.	1060.	<i>Edw. Confessor.</i> 18.
The model of the modern Church.	A structure of <i>Gothish-building</i> , rather large then neate, firm then fair. Very dark (the design of those dayes to raise devotion) save that it was helped again with artificial lights; and is observed by Artists to stand the most exactly <i>East</i> and <i>West</i> of any in <i>England</i> . The great pillars thereof are wreathed with indentings, which vacuities, if formerly filled up with <i>Brasse</i> (as some confidently report) added much to the beauty of the building. But, it matters not so much their taking away the <i>Brasse</i> from the Pillars, had they but left the <i>Lead</i> on the Roof, which is but meanly <i>Tiled</i> at this day. In a word, the best commendation of the Church is, that on Lords-dayes generally it is filled with a great and attentive <i>Congregation</i> .		
Mortality triumphant.	To the <i>South-side</i> of the Church is joyned a <i>Chappel</i> , formerly our <i>Ladies</i> , now a <i>School-house</i> , and under it an arched <i>Charnel-house</i> , the fairest that ever I saw. Here, a pious fancy could make a feast to its self on those <i>dry bones</i> , with the meditation of mortality: where it is hard, yea, impossible to discern the <i>Skulls</i> of a rich, from a poor; wise, from a simple; noble, from a mean person. Thus all counters are alike when put up together in the box, or bag; though, in casting of account, of far different valuation.		
A Dean and Canons founded at <i>Waltham</i> .	King <i>Harold</i> Dedicated the <i>Monastery</i> to the honour of an <i>Holy Cross</i> , found far <i>West-ward</i> , and brought hither (as they write) by miracle; whence the Town hath the addition of <i>waltham-Holy-Cross</i> ; but the Church we finde in after ages also Dedicated to <i>St Laurence</i> . His foundation was for a <i>Dean</i> , and eleven <i>Secular Black Canons</i> . Let none challenge the words of impropriety, seeing a <i>Dean</i> , in <i>Latin</i> , <i>Decanus</i> , hath his name from <i>Δεκα ten</i> , over which number he is properly to be preposed. For, nothing more common, then to wean words from their infant and original sense, and by custome to extend them to a larger signification, as <i>Dean</i> afterwards plainly denoted a superiour over others, whether fewer then ten, as the six <i>Prebendaries</i> of <i>Rocheſter</i> ; or moe, as the three and thirty of <i>Salisbury</i> . The <i>Dean</i> and eleven <i>Canons</i> were plentifully provided for, each <i>Canon</i> having a <i>Manor</i> , and the <i>Dean</i> six for his maintenance.		
Seventeen Manors confirmed to them by the Confessor.	For in the Charter of Confirmation made by King <i>Edward</i> the <i>Confessor</i> , besides <i>North-land</i> in <i>waltham</i> (now called, as I take it, <i>North-field</i>) wherewith the <i>Monastery</i> was first endowed, these following <i>Lordshops</i> , with all their appurtenances, are reckoned up. <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">1. <i>Passefield.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">2. <i>walde.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">3. <i>Upminster.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">4. <i>Walshfare.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">5. <i>Suppedene.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">6. <i>Alwertowne.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">7. <i>Wodesford.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">8. <i>Lambehide.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">9. <i>Nesingan.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">10. <i>Brickindon.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">11. <i>Melnhoo.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">12. <i>Alichsea.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">13. <i>Wormeley.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">14. <i>Nichellswells.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">15. <i>Hitchche.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">16. <i>Lukendon.</i></div> <div style="text-align: center;">17. <i>West-wealtham.</i></div> </div>	1062	20.

All

Anno
Regis
Harol.
I.

Anno
Dom.
1066

All these the King granted unto them *cum Sacha & Socha, Tol and Team, &c.* free from all gels and payments, in a most full and ample manner; Witness himself, *Edith* his Queen, *Stigand Archiepiscopus Dorobornensis*, Count *Harold*, and many other Bishops and Lords subscribing the same Charter.

Will.
Conq.
I.

1067

Afterward *Harold* usurpeth the Crown, but enjoyed it not a full year, kill'd in Battle-fight, by King *William* the Conqueror. Where either of their sword (if victorious) might have done the deed, though otherwise both their titles twisted together, could not make half a good claim to the Crown. *Githa*, Mother of *Harold*, and two religious men of this Abby, *Osegod* and *Ailric*, with their prayers and tears, hardly prevailed with the Conquerour (at first denying him burial, whose ambition had caused the death of so many) to have *Harold's* Corps (with his two Brethren, *Girih* and *Leofwin*, losing their lives in the same battle) to be entombed in *Waltham Church*, of his foundation. He was buried, where now the Earl of *Carlile* his leaden Fountain in his Garden, then probably the end of the Quire, or rather some Eastern Chapel beyond it. His Tomb of plain, but rich gray Marble, with what seemeth a *Cross-Floree* (but much descanted on with art) upon the same, supported with *Pillarets*, one *Pedestal*, whereof I have in my house. As for his reported Epitaph, I purposely omit it, not so much because barbarous (scarce any better in that Age) but because not attested, to my apprehension, with sufficient Authority.

Harold Crowned, killed & buried at Waltham.

A Picture of King *Harold* in glass was lately to be seen in the North-window of the Church, till ten years since some barbarous hand beat it down under the notion of *Superstition*. Surely had such ignorant persons been employed in the dayes of *Hezekiah*, to purge the Temple from the former Idolatry; under the pretence thereof, they would have rended off, the *Liliework* from the Pillars; and the *Lions*, *Oxen*, and *Cherubims* from the Bases of *Brass*. However, there is still a place called *Harold's-Park* in our Parish, by him so denominated. Let not therefore the village of *Harold* on the North side of *Ouse* neer *Bedford* (properly *Harewood*, or *Harelswood*, on vulgar groundless tradition) contest with *Waltham* for this Kings interment.

Deforming Reformers.

The Re-foundation of WALTHAM-ABBY by 'HENRY the Second.

One will easily believe, that at the death of King *Harold*, *Waltham-Abby*, Founded by him, was in a swoon, and the Canons therein much disheartned. However, they had one help, which was this; that, *Edward* the Confessour was the confirmer of their Foundation, whose memory was not onely fresh and fair in all mens mindes (bearing a veneration to his supposed sanctity) but also King *William* the Conquerour, had the best of his bad titles by bequest of the Crown from this Confessour. So that in some sense *Waltham-Abby* might humbly crave kindred of King *William*, both deriving their best being from one and the same person.

Waltham Canons in a sad condition.

Know Reader, that what ever hereafter I alledg touching the Lands and Liberties of *Waltham* (if not otherwise attested by some Author in the margin) is by me faithfully transcribed out of *Waltham Leidger-Book*, now in the possession of the Right Honourable, *JAMES* Earl of *Carlile*. This Book was collected by *Robert Fuller*, the last Abbot of *Waltham*; who, though he could not keep his Abby from dissolution, did preserve the Antiquities thereof from oblivion. The Book (as appears by many inscriptions in the initial Text-letters) was made by himself, having as happy an hand in fair and fast writing, as some of his Sir-name since have been defective therein.

The industry of Rob. Fuller last Abbot of Waltham.

Not

Queen Maud
gives Waltham
Monks a Mill.

Not long after the Conquest, *Waltham-Abby* found good Benefactors; and considerable additions to their maintenance. For, *Maud*, the first Queen to King *Henry* the first, bestowed on them the Mill at *Waltham*, which she had by exchange for *Trinity-Church* in *London*, which I take to be part of the *Trinity-Priory*, now called the *Dukes-place*.

Anno
Dom.
1102
Anno
Regis
Hen. 1
3.

Queen Adeli-
sia the Tythes

Adelisia, second wife to King *Henry* the first, being possessed of *Waltham* as part of her Revenue, gave all the *Tythes* thereof, as well of her *Demefnes*, as all Tenants therein, to the Canons of *Waltham*. Mean time how poorly was the *Priest* of the place provided for? Yea, a glutton *Monastery* in former ages, makes an hungry *Ministrie* in our dayes. An *Abby* and a *Parsonage* unimproprate in the same place, are as inconsistent together, as good woods and an *Iron Mill*. Had not *Waltham Church* lately met with a Noble Founder, the *Minister* thereof must have kept moe fasting-dayes, then ever were put in the *Roman Calender*.

1130 31.

King Steven
his bounty.

King *Stephen*, though he came a wrong way to the Crown, yet did all right to the *Monastery* of *Waltham* (as who generally sought the good will of the Clergie to strengthen himself) and confirmed all their Lands, profits, and priviledges unto them.

1135 Steph.
1.

King Henry
dissolves the
Dean and
Canons at
Waltham

King *Henry* the second utterly dissolved the foundation of *Dean* and eleven Canons at *Waltham*. The debauchedness of their lives is rendred in his Charter as the occasion thereof, *Cum in ea Canonici Clericiq; minus religiose & equaliter vixissent, ita quod in amia conversationis illorum multos scandalisasset.* Whether these were really, or onely reputed vicious, God knows, seeing all those must be guilty whom power is pleased to pronounce so. Sure it is, King *Henry* outed this *Dean* and *Canons*; and placed an *Abbot* and *Regular Augustinians* in their room, encreasing their number to twenty four. And because (to use the Kings own words) it was fit that *Christ his Spouse* should have a new dowry, he not onely confirmed to this *Monastery* the primitive patrimony, mentioned in the *Confessors Charter*, cum peciis terræ, with many pieces of land, and tenements, which their *Benefactors* since bestowed upon them; but also conferred the rich Manors of *Sewardstone*, and *Eppings* on this *Monastery*.

1155 Hen. 2
2.

Augustinians
substituted in
their room.

The whole *Charter* of King *Henry* is too long to transcribe, but some passages therein must not be omitted. First, the King had the consent of Pope *Alexander*, for the suppression of these Canons; the rather moved thereunto, quia predictis Canonicis sufficienter provisum fuit, because the aforesaid expelled Canons had sufficient provision made for them. For, grant them never so scandalous, this was to add scandal to scandal, to thrust them out of house and home, without any means or maintenance. Secondly, this *Charter* presents us with the ancient liberties of *Waltham-Church*, that, *Semper fuit Regalis Capella ex primitiva sui fundatione, nulli Archiepiscopo vel Episcopo, sed tantum Ecclesie Romanae & Regie dispositioni subiecta.* And, though since Reformation, the Church hath been subjected to the Arch-Bishops jurisdiction (as succeeding to the Royal power) and sometimes (with grumbling and reluctancy) to the Episcopal power, yet it never as yet owned an Arch-Deacon, or appeared at his *Visitacion*.

Rome-land in
Waltham.

The metioning of the consent of Pope *Alexander* to the suppression of *Waltham Dean* and *Canons*, and substituting *Augustinians* in their room, mindeth me of a spacious place in this Town, at the entrance of the *Abby*, built about with houses, called *Rome-land*, as (*Peter-pence* were termed *Rome-scot*) at this day. It is generally believed, that the rents thereof peculiarly belonged to the Church of *Rome*. Thus the Pope would not be so bad a carver, as to cut all away to others, and reserve no corner to himself.

Fitz-Aucher
seated at Copt-
Hall.

King *Richard* the first (though generally not too loving to the Clergie) amply confirmed his Fathers Foundation, and gave Lands to *Richard Fitz-Aucher* in this Parish, to hold them in Fee, and hereditarily of the Church of *Waltham-Holy-Cross*. This *Fitz-Aucher* fixed himself at *Copt-Hall*, a stately house in the Parish. Whether so called contractedly, quasi *Cobbing-Hall*, from

1189 Ric. 1
1.

Anno
Regis
Hen. 3
10.

Anno
Dom.
1225

from *Cobbing*, a rivolet running not far off, or from two ancient and essential *Turrets* of that house, which are coped and covered with Lead: or from (in my minde most probable) an high and sharp Hill (thus *Copeland* so called in *Cumberland*) whereon the house is founded.

In or about this Kings Reign, *Hugh Nevil*, with the consent of *Jone* his wife, and *John* his son, bestowed the Manor of *Thorndon* on the Monastery of *Waltham*, of whom largely before.

Hugh Nevil
a bountiful
benefactor.

King *Henry* the third, to spare Court-keeping, came often and lay long at *Abbies*; so that *Waltham* (the nearest mitred Abby to *London*) had much of his company. Being a Religious Prince, great were his desires, but with all necessities, small his deeds in endowing Churches. However, what he wanted in giving himself, he supplied in confirming the gifts of others. And finding it the cheapest way of benefaction, to give liberties then lands, he bestowed on *Waltham* a weekly Market and a *Faire* (so called à *feriando*, from peoples playing there) to last seven dayes; which now is divided into two, but of shorter continuance, the one on the third day of *May*, the *Intention*, the other on the fourteenth of *September*, the *Exaltation* of the *Cross*.

We now have a Market on *Tuesday*, but cannot boast of much trading therein. Indeed there is plenty of *Fleish*, but little *Corn* brought thither: and *Bread* is the staff, as of a man, so of a Market. Nor let us impute the thinness of *Chapmen* in *Summer* to *Husbandmens* having no leasure, as busied in tillage, *Hay*, or harvest: or in *Winter* to their having no pleasure to repair thither in so deep and dirty wayes, seeing the plain truth is, no *underwood* can thrive neer the droppings of so great an *Oke*, the vicinity of *London*. The golden Market in *Leaden-Hall*, makes *leaden Markets* in all the Townes thereabouts.

Waltham Mar-
ket.

30.

1245

In the first year that *Simon* was made *Abbot* (which by exactest proportion we collect to be about the thirtieth year of King *Henry* the third) the * men of *Waltham* came into the Marsh, which the *Abbot* and his *Convent* formerly enjoyed, as several to themselves, killed four *Mares*, worth forty shillings sterling at least, and drove away all the rest. The *Abbot* was politically pleased, for the present not to take notice thereof. The next year some men of *Waltham* went to the *Abbot*, the *Thursday* before *Easter*, in the name of the whole Village, and demanded of him to remove his *Mares* and *Colts* out of the Marsh. This the *Abbot* refused to do, adding withal, that if his *Bailiffs* had placed his Cattle elsewhere then they ought, they might do well to have it amended, yet so, as to defer the matter till *Tuesday* after *Easter*.

Broils be-
twixt the Ab-
bot and the
Townsmen
about Com-
mons.

* M. S. of *Ed-*
ward Stacy,
written (as
appears by
character)
140 years
since, fol. 42.

31.

1246

On that *Tuesday*, *Richard*, Brother to the King, Duke of *Cornwall*, came to *Waltham*, at what time both the men and women of the Town repaired to the gate of the *Abbey*, to receive the *Abbots* final answer. He told them that he could not speak with them for the present, as providing himself for a long journey into *Lincoln-shire*, there to visit the *Justices itinerant*; but by his *Prior* and other *Canons*, he desired them to be patient till his return, when he would mend what was to be mended. Not satisfied therewith, and neither respecting the spiritual holiness of the *Abbot*, nor temporal greatness of the *Duke*, railed at and reviled him. Then into the pasture they go, and, in driving out the *Abbots Mares* and *Colts*, drowned three worth twenty shillings, spoiled ten more, to the value of ten marks, and beat their keepers who resisted them, even to the shedding of blood.

The sturdy-
ness of the
Townsmen.

But, after the *Abbot* returned from *Lincoln-shire*, the Townsmen, fearing they should be trounced for their riot, desired a *Love-day*, submitted themselves unto him, and profered to pay him damage. But next day, when the performance of these promises were expected, away went the *Waltham-men*, with their wives and children, to the King to *London*, inraging him as much as in them lay, against the *Abbot*, accusing him that he would

The most
guiltie first
accuse.

disinherit them of their right, bring up new customes, take away their Pastures, and (to use their own words) eat them up to the bones; and that he had wounded and abused some of them, who stood defending their own rights. Which false report was believed of many, to the great disgrace of the *Convent of Waltham*.

The Abbot comes off conqueror.

The *Abbot* would not put up so great a wrong, but, having Episcopal power in himself, proceeded to the Excommunication of the *Rebellious Walthamites*. But the *Townsmen* went another way to work, namely, to defend their right by the *Common Laws* of the Realm. Whereupon *Stephen Fitz-Bennet*, *Simon* of the *Wood*, *William Theyden*, and *Ralph* of the *Bridge*, in the name of all the rest, implead the *Abbot* for appropriating their *Commons* to himself. But in fine (after many cross pleadings here too long to relate) the *Abbot* so acquitted himself, that he made both his own right and the *Townsmen's* riot to appear: who at last at the *Kings-Bench* were glad to confess that they had done evil, and were amerced twenty Marks to the *Abbot*, which he not only remitted unto them, but also on their submission assailed them from the *Excommunication*.

The sute betwixt the Abbot of Waltham and the Lord of Chesthunt.

* In his short Survey of Hertfordshire.

The brawls betwixt the *Abbot* and *Townsmen* of *Waltham* were no sooner ended, but far fiercer began betwixt the said *Abbot* and the Lord of *Chesthunt*, on the like occasion. This *Chesthunt* is a large Parish in *Hertfordshire*, confining on the west of *Waltham*, so called saith * *Norden*, quasi *Castanetum*, of *Chestnut-trees*, though now, I believe, one hardly appears in the whole Lordship. In this sute,

Anno Dom. 1246

Anno Regis Hen. 3 31.

1248

33.

Plaintiff.

Peter, Duke of *Savoy*, the *Kings* dear Uncle, (first founder, I take it, of the *Savoy* in *London*) on whom the King conferred many Lordships, and *Chesthunt* amongst the rest.

Judges.

Ralph Fitz-Nicolas, *John* of *Lexington*, *Paulin Peyner Seneschal*, *Henry* of *Bath*, *Jeremy* of *Caxton*, *Henry* de *Bretton*.

Defendant.

Simon, the *Abbot*, and the *Convent* of *Waltham*.

Solicitor.

Adam de *Alverton*.

The Case.

The *Plaintiff* endeavoured to prove, that the stream of *Ley*, (called the *Kings-Stream*) dividing *Hertfordshire* from *Essex*, ran thorow the Town of *Waltham*, all the land west thereof belonging to the Manor of *Chesthunt*. This was denied by the *Defendant*, maintaining that *Small-Ley-stream*, running well-nigh half a mile west of *Waltham*, parted the Counties, all the interjacent meadows pertained to *Waltham*.

A like not the same.

Perusing the names of these the *Kings Justices* at *Westminster*, who would not suspect, but that this *Henry* of *Bath* was *Bishop* of that *See*? considering how many *Clergy-men* in that age, were employed in places of *Judicature*. But the suspicion is causeless, finding none of that name in the *Episcopal Catalogue*. Others in like manner may apprehend, that *Bretton*, here mentioned, was that *Learned Lawyer* (afterwards *Bishop* of *Hereford*) who wrote the * *Book De Juribus Anglicanis*, and who flourished in the latter end of the Reign of this King *Henry* the third. But his name being *John*, not *Henry*, discovereth him a different person.

* See Godwin in his Bishops of Hereford.

Not long after, this sute was finally determined, and *Peter* Duke of *Savoy* remised and quit-claimed from him and his Heirs, to the said *Abbot* and his

The History of Waltham-Abby.

11

Anno
Regis

Anno
Dom.

his Successors, the right and claim he had to ask in the same Meadows and Marshes of the said Abbot. This is called in the *Instrument finalis concordia*, though it proved neither final, nor a concord. For, soon after this *paltracure* broke out again, and the matter was in variance and undetermined betwixt Robert, the last Abbot, and the Lord of Chesthunt, when the Abby was dissolved.

Many *accessions* (besides those common *prolongers* of all *sutes*, namely the heat of mens anger, and the *bellows* of instruments, gaining by Law) did concur to lengthen this *cause*.

1. The *considerableness* and concernment of the thing controverted, being a large and rich portion of ground.
2. The *difficulty* of the *cause*, about the *chanels* of that River, which, *Protem*-like, in several Ages hath appeared in sundry formes, disguised by derivations on different occasions.
3. The *greatness* of the *Clients*; Chesthunt Lordship being alwayes in the hand of some potent person, and the Corporation of Waltham Covent able to wage Law with him.

Hence hath this *sute* been as *long-liv'd* as any in England, (not excepting that in * *Glocester-shire*, betwixt the posterity of Vice-Count Lisle, and the Lord Barkley;) seeing very lately (if not at this day) there were some *sutes* about our bounds; Waltham Meadows being very rich in *grass* and *hay*, but too fruitful in contentions.

For mine own part, that wound which I cannot heal, I will not widen: and, seeing I may lay with the Poet,

Non nostrum inter vos tantas componere lites. { No power of mine so far extends,
As for to make both parties friends.

I will not turn, of an *unpartial Historian*, an *engaged person*, who as a neighbour wish well to Chesthunt, as a *Parishioner* better to Waltham; as a *Christian*, best to both. And therefore so much for *matter of fact*, in our Records and *Leiger-books*, leaving all matters of right for others to decide.

Mean time, whilst the Abbot and Monks of Waltham, were vexed with the men of Chesthunt, they found more favour (if publick fame belies them not) from some *loving women* in that Parish, I mean the Holy Sisters in Chesthunt-Nunnery, whose House (when ever Founded) I finde some ten years since thus confirmed by Royal Authority.

Henricus Rex Anglie, Dominus Hybernie, Dux Normandie, Aquitanie, & Comes Andegavie &c. Sheshrehunt Moniales totam terram Dom. teneant cum pertinentiis suisq; Canonicis de Caihele &c. quos amoveri fecimus. Datum apud West. xj. Aug. Anno Regni nostri xxiiij.

Chesthunt
Nunnery
Founded.

But this subject begins to swell beyond the bounds intended unto it, lest therefore what we intended but a *Traet* should swell to a *Tome*, we will here descend to matters of later date.

Onely be it premised, that some years before the *Dissolution*, Robert the last Abbot of Waltham, passed over the fair seat of Copt-Hall, unto King Henry the eighth. Thus as the *Castor*, when pursued by the *Hunter*, to make his escape is reported to bite off his own stones, (as the main treasure sought after)

Copt-Hall
past to King
Hen. 8.

ter) and so saves his life by losing a limb: So this Abbot politickly parted with that stately Mansion, in hope thereby to preserve the rest of his revenues. However all would not do, (so impossible it is to save, what is design'd to ruine) and few years after, the Abby, with the large Lands thereof, were seized on by the King, and for some Moneths, He alone stood possessed thereof.

Anno
Dom.Anno
Regis

The Extraction, Charter, Death and Issue of Sir Anthony Dennie, on whom King Henry the Eighth bestowed WALTHAM-ABBY.

AT the Dissolution, King Henry bestowed the Site of this Abby, with many large and rich Lands belonging thereunto, on Sr Anthony Dennie, for the terme of Thirty one years. Let us a little enquire into his extraction and discent.

I finde the name very Ancient at a Chesterton in Huntingdon-shire, where the Heir-general was long since married, to the worshipful and Ancient Family of the Beuils. It seems, a branch of the Male-line afterwards fixed in Hertford-shire; Whereof John Denny, Esquire, valiantly served Henry the fifth in France, where he was slain, and buried with Thomas, his second Son, in St Dionys his Chappel; their interment in so noble a place speaking their worthy performances. In the Reign of Queen Mary, a Friar shewed their Tombs to Sr Matthew Carew, together with their Coates and differences. Henry, eldest son of this John Denny, begat William Denny of Chestnut in Hertford-shire, which William was High Sheriff of the County in the year 1480. leaving Edmond Denny to inherit his estate.

Edmond Denny was one of the Barons of the Exchequer, in credit and favour with King Edward the Fourth, and Henry the Seventh. He Married Mary, the Daughter and Heir of Robert Troutbeck Esquire, on whom he begat Thomas Denny, from whom the Dennies in Norfolk are descended.

Anthony Denny, second Son to Baron Denny, was Knighted by King Henry the Eighth, made Gentleman of his Bed-chamber, Privy-Councillour, and one of his Executors. I cannot say he was bred any great Scholar, but finde him a Mecenas, and grand favourer of Learned men. For, when the School of Sedbury in the North, belonging to St Johns in Cambridg, was run to ruine, the Lands thereof being sold and embezeled, Sr Anthony procured the reparation of the Schoole, and restitution of their means, firmly settling them to prevent future alienation. Hear what character c Mr Ascham gives of him; Religio, Doctrina, Respublica, omnes curas tuas sic occupant, ut extra has tres res nullum tempus consumas; Religion, Learning, Common-wealth, so employ all thy cares, that besides these three things you spend no other time. Let then the enemies (if any) of his memory abate of this character to what proportion they please (pretending it but the Orators Rhetorical Hyperbole) the very remainder thereof, which their malice must leave, will be sufficient to speak Sr Anthony a worthy and meriting Gentleman.

I finde an excellent Epitaph made on him by one the Learned'st of Noble-men, and Noblest of Learned men in his age, viz. Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, and eldest son to the Duke of Norfolk, worthy the Reader his refusal.

Upon

A Lease of Waltham-Abby given to Sir Anthony Denny.

John Denny the great souldier in France.

a Speed, or rather Sr Rob. Cotton in Huntingdon-shire.

Edm. Denny Baron of the Exchequer.

Anthony Denny his high commendations.

b Ascham, Camend. Epist. fol. 210. Idem. fol. 208.

His Epitaph made by the Lord Howard.

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Regis

Anno
Dom.

Upon the Death of Sir Anthony a Denny.

a Weavers Fun-
eral Monu-
ments, p. 852.

Death, and the *King*, did, as it were, contend,
Which of them two bare *Denny* greatest love :
The *King*, to shew his love 'gan far extend,
Did him advance his betters far above.
Neer place, much wealth, great honour eke him gave,
To make it known what power Princes have.

But when *Death* came with his triumphant gift,
From worldly cark he quit his wearied ghost
Free from the corps, and straight to Heaven it lift.
Now deem that can, who did for *Denny* most.
The *King* gave wealth, but fading and unsure :
Death brought him blifs that ever shall endure.

Know Reader, that this Lord made this *Epitaph* by a Poetical *Prolepsis* ; otherwise, at the reading thereof who would not conceive, that the *Author* surviv'd the *subject of his Poem* ? Whereas indeed this Lord died (beheaded 1546.) in the Reign of King *Henry* the Eighth, whom *Sr Anthony* out-lived, being one of the Executors of his Will. Nor was it the worst piece of service he performed to his Master, when (all other Courtiers declining the employment) he truly acquainted him with his dying-condition, to dispose of his soul for another world.

Sr Anthony died about the second of *Edward* the sixth, Dame *Joan* his Wife, surviving him. Daughter she was to *Sr Philip Champernoone* of *Modbury* in *Devon-shire* : a Lady of great beauty and parts, a favourer of the Reformed Religion when the times were most dangerous. She sent eight shillings by her man, in a *Violet coat*, to *Anne* ^b *Aschough* when imprisoned in the *Counter* ; a small sum, yet a great gift, so hazardous it was to help any in her condition. This Lady *Joan* bought the *Reversion in Fee* of *Waltham*, from King *Edward* the Sixth, paying three thousand and hundred pounds for the same, purchasing therewith large *priviledges* in *Waltham-Forest*, as by the *Letters Patents* doth appear. She bare two Sons to *Sr Anthony*, *Henry Denny*, Esquire, of whom hereafter : the second *Sr Edward*, who, by Gods blessing, Queen *Elizabeths* bounty, and his own valour, atchieved a fair estate in the County of *Kerry* in *Ireland*, which at this day is (if any thing in that woful war-wasted Countrey can be) enjoyed by his great Grand-child, *Arthur Denny* Esq; of *Tralleigh*.

His issue by
Dame *Joan*
his wife.

b *Fox, Acts &*
Monuments,
fol. 1239.

*The condition of Waltham Church from the Dissolution
of the Abby, untill the Death of King
HENRY the Eighth.*

HAVING the perusal of the *Church-Wardens* accounts, wherein their Ancient expences and receipts are exactly taken, fairly written, and carefully kept, I shall select thence some memorable *Items*, to acquaint us with the general devotion of those dayes.

Know

The History of Waltham-Abby.

Know then, there were fix Ordinary *Obits* which the Church-wardens did annually discharge, viz.

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[*Thomas Smith*, and *Joan* his wife, on the sixteenth of *January*.
Thomas Friend, *Juan* and *Joan* his wives, on the sixteenth of *February*.
Robert Peeet and *Joan* his wife, on the tenth of *April*.
 For *Thomas Towers* and *Katharine* his wife, the six and twentieth of *April*.
John Breges and *Agnes* his wife, the one and thirtieth of *May*.
Thomas Turner and *Christian* his wife, the twentieth day of *December*.

The charge of an *Obit* was two shillings and two pence; and, if any be curious to have the particulars thereof, it was thus expended. To the *Parish-Priest* four pence; to our *Ladies-Priest* three pence; to the *Charnel-Priest* three pence; to the two *Clerks* four pence; to the *Children* (these I conceive *Choristers*) three pence; to the *Sexton* two pence; to the *Bell-man* two pence; for two *Tapers* two pence; for *Oblation* two pence. Oh the reasonable rates at *Waltham*! two shillings two pence for an *Obit*, the price whereof in *Saint Pauls* in *London* was fourty shillings. For (forsooth) the higher the Church, the holier the service, the dearer the price, though he had given too much that had given but thanks for such vanities.

To detract the expences of these *Obits*, the parties prayed for, or their Executors, left *Lands*, *Houses* or *Stock*, to the Church-Wardens. *Thomas Smith* bequeathed a *Tenement* in the *Corn-Market*, and others gave *Lands* in *Upshire*, called *Pater-noster-Hills*; others ground elsewhere, besides a stock of eighteen *Cows*, which the Wardens let out yearly to farm for eighteen shillings, making up their yearly accounts at the Feast of *Michael* the Arch-Angel, out of which we have excerpted the following remarkable particulars.

Anno 1542. the 34th of HENRY the 8th.

Imprimis. For watching the *Sepulchre*, a groat.] This constantly returns in every yearly account, though what meant thereby, I know not. I could suspect some Ceremony on *Easter-eve*, (in imitation of the *Souldiers* watching *Christs grave*) but am loath to charge that Age with more superstition then it was clearly guilty of.

Item, Paid to the Ringers at the coming of the Kings Grace, six pence.] Yet *Waltham* Bells told no tales every time King *Henry* came hither, having a small house in *Rome-land* to which he is said oft privately to retire, for his pleasure.

Item, Paid unto two men of Law for their counsel about the Church-leases, six shillings eight pence.

Item, Paid the Attorney for his Fee, twenty pence.

Item, Paid for Ringing at the Prince his coming, a penny.

Anno 1543. the 35th of HENRY the 8th.

Imprimis, Received of the Executors of *Sr Robert Fuller*, given by the said *Sr Robert* to the Church, ten pounds.

How is this man degraded from the Right Honourable the Lord Abbot of *Waltham* (the last in that place) to become a poor *Sr Robert*, the title of the meanest Priest in that age. Yet such his charity in his poverty, that, besides

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fides this legacy, he bequeathed to the Church a Chalice ^a silver and gilt, which they afterwards sold for seven pounds.

^a The Church-wardens account, Anno 1556.

Anno 1544. the 36. of HENRY the 8th.

Imprimis, Received of *Adam Tanner* the overplus of the money which was gathered for the purchase of the Bells, two pound four shillings and eleven pence.] It seems the Kings Officers sold, and the Parish then purchased the five Bells being great and tunable (who, as they gave bountifully, so I presume they bought reasonably) and the surpluse of the money was delivered.

Item, Received of *Richard Tanner* for eight *Stoles*, three shillings.] A *Stole* was a vestment which the Priest used. Surely these were much worn, and very rags of *Popery*, as sold for four pence half penny a piece. It seems the Church-wardens were not so charitable to give away, nor so superstitious to burn, but so thrifty as to make profit by sale of these decayed vestments.

Item, Paid for mending the hand-bell, two pence.] This was not fixed as the rest in any place of Church or Steeple, but (being a *Diminutive* of the *Saints-bell*) was carried in the Sextons hands at the circumcession of the Sacrament, the visitation of the sick, and such like occasions.

Item, Paid to *Philip Wright*, Carpenter, for making a frame in the *Bell-frey*, eighteen shillings four pence.] The Bells being bought by the Parishioners, were taken down out of the decayed Steeple, and we shall afterwards see what became thereof. Mean time a *timber-frame* was made (which the aged of the last generation easily remembered) in the *South-East* end of the Church-yard, where now two Yew-trees stand, and a shift made for some years to hang the Bells thereon.

Anno 1546. the 38. of HENRY the 8th.

Item, For *classe*s to hold up the *Banners* in the body of the Church, eight pence.] By these, I understand, not *Pennons* with *Arms* hanging over the Graves of interred Gentlemen, but rather some superstitious *Screamers*, usually carried about in *Procession*.

Item, Paid to *John Boston* for mending the *Organs*, twentie pence.

The state of Waltham Church during the Reign of
King EDWARD the Sixth.

Old things are passed away, behold all things now are become new. Superstition by degrees being banished out of the Church, we hear no more of *prayers* and *Masses* for the dead. Every *Obit* now had its own *Obit*, and fully expired, the Lands formerly given thereunto being employed to more charitable uses. But let us select some particulars of the Church-wardens accounts in this Kings dayes.

Anno 1549. the 3^d. of EDWARD the Sixth.

Imprimis, Sold the *Silver plate* which was on the desk in the Chancel, weighing five ounces for twenty five shillings.] Guess the gallantry of our Church

Church by this (presuming all the rest in proportionable *equipage*) when the desk, whereon the Priest read, was inlaid with plate of silver.

Item, Sold a *rod of iron* which the curtain run upon before the *Rood*, nine pence.] The *Rood* was an Image of Christ on the Cross, made generally of wood, and erected in a loft for that purpose, just over the passage out of the Church into the Chancel. And, wot you what *spiritual mysterie* was couched in this position thereof? The Church (forlooth) typified the *Church Militant*, the *Chancel* represents the *Church Triumphant*; and all, who will pass out of the former into the latter, must go under the *Rood-loft*; that is, carry the cross and be acquainted with affliction. I add this the rather, because a *Harpfield*, that great Scholar (who might be presumed knowing in his own art of Superstition) confesseth himself ignorant of the reason of the *Rood-situation*.

Item, Sold so much *wax* as amounted to twenty six shillings.] So thrifty the *Wardens*, that they bought not *candles* and *tapers* ready made, but bought the *wax* at the best hand, and payed poor people for the making of them. Now they sold their *Magazine* of *wax* as useles. Under the Reformation more light and fewer candles.

Item, Paid for half of the *Book* called *Paraphrase*, five shillings.] By the seventh Injunction of King *Edward*, each Parish was to procure the *Paraphrase* of *Erasmus*, namely, the first part thereof on the Gospels, and the same to be let up in some convenient place in the Church.

Item, Spent in the Visitation at *Chelmsford* amongst the *wardens* and other honest men, fourteen shillings four pence.] A round summe I assure you in those dayes. This was the first *Visitation* (kept by *Nicholas Ridley* newly Bishop of *London*) whereat *Waltham-wardens* ever appeared out of their own Town, whose *Abbot* formerly had *Episcopal Jurisdiction*.

Anno 1551 the 5th of EDWARD the 6th.

Imprimis, Received for a *Knell* of a servant to the Lady *Mary* her Grace, ten pence.] *Copt-Hall* in this Parish being then in the Crown, the Lady (afterwards Queen) *Mary*, came thither sometimes to take the air probably, during whose residence there this her servant died.

Item, Lost fourty six shillings by reason of the fall of money by *Proclamation*.] King *Henry* much debased the *English Coyne*, to his own gain and the Lands loss (if Sovereigns may be said to get by the damage of their Subjects) yet all would not do to pay his debts. His Son *Edward* endeavoured to reduce the *Coyne* to its true standard, decrying bad money by his Proclamation, to the intrinsic value thereof. But, prevented by death, he effected not this difficult design (*Adultery in Men*, and *Adulterateness in Money*, both hardly reclaimed) which was afterwards compleated by the care of *Queen Elizabeth*.

Item, Received for two hundred seventy one ounces of Plate, sold at several times for the best advantage, sixtie seven pound fourteen shillings and nine pence.] Now was the Brotherhood in the Church dissolved, consisting as formerly of three Priests, three Choristers, and two Sextons; and the rich plate belonging to them was sold for the good of the Parish. It may seem strange the Kings Commissioners deputed for that purpose, seised not on it, from whose hands *Waltham* found some favour (befriended by the Lord *Rich* their Countrey-man) the rather because of their intentions to build their decayed Steeple.

Church-

a Fox Ass &
Mon. in the
examination
of Tho. Hawks.
pag. 1590.

Anno
Dom. Anno
Regis

Church-alterations in the Reign of Queen MARY.

New Lady new Laws. Now strange the Metamorphosis in Waltham. Condemn not this our *Comographie*, or description of a *Country-Town*, as too low and narrow a subject, seeing in some sort the *Historie of Waltham-Church* is the *Church-History of England*, all *Parishes* in that age being infected alike with superstition. Nor intend I hereby to renew the memorie of *Idolatrie*, but to revive our gratitude to God for the abolishing thereof, whose numerous trinkets here entue.

Anno 1554. *Maria primo.*

Imprimis, For a *Cross* with a foot copper and gilt, twentie five shillings.

Item, For a *Cross-staff* copper and gilt, nine shillings and four pence.

Item, For a *Pax* copper and gilt, five shillings.] Greet one another, saith *St. Paul*, with an holy kiss, on which words of the *Apostle* the *Pax* had its original. This Ceremony performed in the *Primitive times*, and *Eastern Countries*, was afterwards (to prevent wantonness, & to make the more expedition) commuted into a new custome, viz. A piece of wood, or metall (with *Christ's* picture thereon) was made, and solemnly tendred to all people to kiss. This was called the *Pax*, or *Peace*, to shew the unity and amity of all there assembled; who (though not immediately) by the *Proxie* of the *Pax* kissed one another.

a 1 Cor 16.20

Item, For a pair of *Censers* copper and gilt, nine shillings and eight pence.] These were pots in the which frankincense was burned, perfuming the Church during Divine Service.

Item, For a *Stock* of brass for the *Holy-water*, seven shillings.] Which by the Canon must be of marble, or metall, and in no case of brick, b lest the sacred liquor be suck'd up by the spunginess thereof.

b *Durantis de Ritibus Eccles. num. 6. pag. 173.*

Item, For a *Chrismatory* of pewter, three shillings four pence.] This was a vessel in which the consecrated oyl, used in *Baptisme*, *Confirmation*, and *Extreme Unction*, was deposited.

Item, For a yard of silver *Sarcenet* for a cloth for the *Sacrament*, seven shillings eight pence.] Here some *Silkeman* or *Mercer* must satisfy us what this was. The price seems too low for *Sarcenet* inwoven with silver, and too high for plain *Sarcenet* of a silver colour.

Item, For a *Pix* of *Pewter*, two shillings.] This was a Box wherein the *Host*, or consecrated wafer, was put and preserved.

Item, For *Mary* and *John* that stand in the *Rood-loft*, twenty six shillings eight pence.] *Christ* c on the *Cross* saw his Mother, and the *Disciple* whom he loved standing by. In apish imitation whereof the *Rood* (when perfectly made with all the appurtenances thereof) was attended with these two images.

c *John 19.26; &c.*

Item, For washing eleven *Aubes* and as many *Head-clothes*, six pence.] An *Aube*, or *Albe*, was a *Priests* garment of white linen down to their feet, girded about his middle. The thin matter denoted simplicity; colour, purity; length, (deep & *Divine*) perseverance: and the cincture thereof signified the person wearing it prompt and prepared for *Gods service*. Their head-clothes were like our *Sergeants Goffes*, but close, and not turned up.

d *Durantis de Ritibus Eccles. num. 9. pag. 316.*

Item, For watching the *Sepulchre*, eight pence.] Thus the price of that service (but a groat in King *Henries* dayes) was doubled. However, though *Papery* was restored to its kinde, yet was it not re-estimated in its former degree,

in the short Reign of Queen *Mary*, for we finde no mention of the former six *Obits* anniverlarily performed, the lands for whose maintenance were alienated in the Reign of King *Edward*, and the Vicar of the Parish not so charitable as to celebrate these *Obits* gratis without any reward for the same.

Item, For a *Proceſſioner*, and a *Manual*, twenty pence.

Item, For a *Corporas-cloth*, twelve pence.] This was a linen cloth laid over or under the consecrated *Host*.

Item, To the Apparitor for the *Bishops Book of Articles* as the *Visitator*, six pence.] This Bishop was bloody *Bonner*, that corpulent Tyrant, full (as one said) of guts and empty of bowels; who visited his Diocess before he was sick, and made it sick with his Visitation. His Articles were in number thirty seven, and *John a Bale* wrote a book against them. The Bishops chief care herein was the setting up of compleat *Roods*, commonly called (but when without his ear-reach) *Bonnors Block-almightie*. If any refused to provide such blocks for him, let them expect he would procure fagots for them.

a Fox Acts &
Mon. pag.
1474.

Anno 1556. *Maria tertio*.

Imprimis, For coles to undermine a piece of the Steeple which stood after the first fall, two shillings.] This Steeple formerly stood in the middle (now East end) of the Church; and, being ruined past possibilitie of repair, fell down of it self, onely a remaining part was blown up by underminers. How quickly can a few destroy what required the age and industry of many in long time to raise and advance?

It foundeth not a little to the praise of this Parish, that neither burthen-some nor beholding to the Vicinage for a collection, they re-built the Steeple at the west end of the Church, on their own proper cost, enabled thereunto, partly by their stock in the Church-box, arising from the sale (as is aforesaid) of the goods of the Brotherhood; and partly by the voluntary contribution of the Parishioners. This Tower-Steeple is eighty six foot high from the foundation to the battlements, each ^b foot whereof (besides the materials preprovided) costing thirty three shillings four pence the building. Three years passed from the founding to the finishing thereof (every years work discernable by the discolouration of the stones) and the Parish was forced, for the perfecting of the building, to sell their Bells, hanging before in a wooden frame in the Church-yard; so that *Waltham*, which formerly had Steeple-less-Bells, now had for some years a Bell-less-Steeple.

b The thirty three foot on the top (difficulty & danger of climbing made it the dearer) cost fourty shillings a foot, as appeareth by the Church-wardens accounts, Anno 1563.

The condition of the Church from the beginning of Queen ELIZABETH, to this day.

IN eleven full years, viz. from the last of King *Henry the Eighth*, Anno 1547. till the first of Queen *Elizabeth*, 1558. this Church found four changes in Religion; *Papist*, and *Protestant*; *Papist*, and *Protestant* again. The last turn will appear by the *Wardens* following accounts,

Anno

Anno 1558. Elizabetha primo.

Imprimis, For the taking down of the Rood-loft, three shillings two pence.] If then, there living and able, I hope I should have lent an helping hand to so good a work, as now I bestow my prayers; that the like may never in England be let up again.

Item, Received for a suite of Vestments, being of *blew velvet*, and another suite of *Damask*, and an *Altar-cloth*, four pound.

Item, For three *Corporasses*, whereof two *white silk*, and one *blew velvet*, two pound thirteen shillings four pence.

Item, For two suits of Vestments, and an *Altar-cloth*, three pound.] Now was the superstitious Ward-robe dispersed, and that (no doubt) sold for shillings which cost pounds. They were beheld as the garments spotted with sin, and therefore the less pity to part with them. But see what followeth.

Anno 1562. Elizabetha quinto.

Item, For a cloth of *Buckram* for the *Communion-Table*, and the making, four shillings.] Having sold so much could they not afford a better Carpet? Is there no mean betwixt painting a face, and not washing it? He must have a fixt aim and strong hand, who hits decency, and misleth gaudiness and sluttery. But there is a generation of people who over-do in the spirit of opposition: such conceive that a *treffel* is good enough for Gods Table, and such a *Table*, *Covering* enough for it self.

Item, For *Lattices* for the *Church-windows*, fifteen shillings.] Fain would I for the credit of our Church by *Lattices* understand *Casements*, if the word would bear it. Yet surely it was not for covetousness wholly to spare glazing, but thrift to preserve the glasse, that these *Lattices* did fence them on the outside.

Item, Paid for a *Bay Nagge* given to Mr *Henry Denny* for the *Abby wall*, three pound seventeen shillings.] This *Nagge* was rather a thankful acknowledgment of Mr *Denny* his propriety, then a just valuation of what the *Parish* received from him, for it followeth.

Item, To *Labourers* which did undermine the said wall, fourty five shillings nine pence.] What then may the materials of that wall be presumed worth in themselves? I conceive this was a building which ranged East beyond the old *Steeple*, the demolishing whereof brought much profit to the *Parish*, whole *Wardens* for some years drave a great trade in the sale of *Lead*, *Stone*, and *Timber*, all devoured in the *roofing*, *flooring*, and *finishing* of their *Steeple*.

Anno 1563. Eliz. 6^{to}.

Imprimis, For an old house in the old *Market-place*, thirteen pound six shillings eight pence.] This *Tenement* low-rented yielded annually nine shillings. Now the *Parish* sold it, (and another house in *West-street*) outright, letting *Leases* also of their other *Church-lands* for twenty one years, such bargains made a *Feast* for the present age, and a *Famine* for posterity.

Item, For the old timber in the little *Vestuary* of *St Georges Chappel*, fifteen shillings.] In vain have I enquired for the situation hereof, long since demolished, and no wonder if *St George his Chappel* cannot be found, when *St George* himself is affirmed by some as one never existent, in *rerum natura*.

Item, Received of Mr *Denny* for one *Cope* of Cloth of gold, three pound six shillings eight pence.

c Philippus
Melancthon in
Apologia Ar-
ticulo 21. con-
fessionis Augu-
stanae.

Item, For two Altar-Cloaths of Velvet and silk, two pound.] It seemeth the Parish did not part with all their gallantry at once, but made several stakes thereof, and parcelled them out as their necessities did require.

Item, Received of Mr Tamworth twenty loads of timber ready hewed, which he gave to the Parish.] This Gentleman by his bounty to the Publick seems better known to God then to me, having neither heard nor read of any of his name living in or near to Waltham.

Item, For taking down the stairs in the Abby, seven shillings eight pence.] This was part of the Nag-purchase, whereby we collect that a large structure was by this bargain conveyed to the Parish.

Item, For taking down the Lead from the Charnel-house, and covering the Steeple, eighteen shillings.] The Steeple was conceived above the Charnel-house as in height so in honour. Wherefore now the Lead taken from it ^a was translated to the covering of the Steeple. Call this removing of this metal from one part of the Church to another, onely the borrowing of St Peter to lend to St Paul.

Item, For the Arch-Deacons man coming for a Record of all the Inhabitants of the Parish, four pence.] I know not on what Canon this was founded. It may be her Majestie in those dangerous times desired (not out of Pride, but necessary Policy) to know the number of her Subjects, and might enjoin the Arch-Deacons in their respective Visitations, to make this inquiry.

But Day begins to dawn, and the light of our Age to appear, matters coming within the memory of many alive. We will therefore break off Waltham since affording no peculiar observables. Onely will add that St Edward (Grand-child to St Anthony) Denny, was created by King James, ^a Baron of Waltham, and since made by King Charles, Earl of Norwich. A Noble person, who settled on the Curate of Waltham (to whom before a bare Stipend of Eight pound did belong) one hundred pound per annum, with some other considerable accommodations, tying good Land for the true performance thereof.

The Abby is now the Inheritance of this Earls Grand-child, by Honora his daughter) James Hay Earl of Carlile, who Married Margaret, Daughter to Francis, Earl of Bedford, by whom as yet he hath no Issue, for the continuance of whole happiness my prayers shall never be wanting.

The Reader may justly expect from me a Catalogue of all the Abbots of this Monastery. But to do it *falsly*, I dare not; *lamely*, I would not; *perfectly*, I cannot; and therefore must crave to be excused. Onely let me observe, that Nicholas, Abbot of Waltham was most triumphant in power, of any in his place; he flourished in the Reign of King Richard the second, and was ^b one of the fourteen Commissioners, chosen by Parliament, to examine the miscarriages in that Kings Reign since the death of his Grand-father.

Amongst the Natives of Waltham for States-men, John de Waltham bears away the bell. He was keeper of the Privy Seal in the Reign of King Richard the second, being the third in number, chosen amongst the fourteen Commissioners aforesaid, impowred to examine all misdemeanours of State. And now was not Waltham highly honoured with more then a single share, when amongst those fourteen, two were her Gremials, the forenamed Nicholas living in Waltham, and this John, having his name thence, because birth therein.

But amongst Scholars in our Town, Roger Waltham must not be forgotten, Canon of St Pauls in London, and a great favourite to Fulk Bassett, Bishop thereof. He wrote many learned books, whereof two especially (one called *Compendium Morale*, the other *Imagines Oratorum*) commend his parts and pains to posterity.

Pass we from those who were Born, to eminent persons Buried therein. Here we first meet with Hugh Nevile, a Minion of King Richard the first, he was Interred in Waltham Church, saith my ^c Author, in *Nobili Sarcophago Mar-moro & insculpto, in a Noble Coffin of Marble engrav'd. If a Coffin be call'd Sarcophagus* (from consuming the Corps) surely *Sacri ledg* may be named *Sar-*

cophago-

^a Which is now but tiled

High time to knock off.

^a Candens Brit. in Essex.

James Earle of Carlile present owner of Waltham. Nicholas the most eminent Abbot of Waltham.

^b Hen de Knigh-ton de eventibus Angl. lib. v. pag. 2687.

John de Wal-

tham. ^c Hen. Knigh-ton ut prius. pag. 2684. Roger Wal-tham a learned writer.

^d Bale de script. Brit. cent. 4 pag. 302.

Hugh Nevil buried in Waltham.

^e Mat. Paris in Anno 1222. page 315. and also Robert Passet law.

cephago-phagus, which at this day hath devoured that *Coffin*, and all belonging thereunto.

We spoil all, if we forget, *Robert Passellew*, who was *Dominus factorum*, in the middle, and *fac nihil*, towards the end of the Reign of *Henry the third*. Some Parasites extolled him by allusion to his name, *Pass-le-eau*, (that is, passing the pure water) the wits of those dayes thus descanting upon him;

*Est aqua lenis, & est aqua dulcis, & est aqua clara;
Tu præcellis aquam, nam leni lenior es tu,
Dulci dulcior es tu, clara clarior es tu,
Mente quidem lenis, re dulcis, sanguine clarus.*

But such who flattered him the fastest, whilest in favour, mocked him the most in misery, and at last he died in his own House in Waltham, and was & buried in the *Abby-Church* therein.

And now because we have so often cited *Matthew Paris*, I never met with more difficulties in six lines, then what I finde in him; which because nearly relating to this present subject, I thought fit to exemplifie.

MATTHEW PARIS in Anno 1242. p. 595.

Eodemq; Anno, videlicet in crastino Sti Michaelis dedicata est Ecclesia conventualis Canonorum de Waltham, ab Episcopo Norwicensi willielmo, solemniter valde, assistentibus aliis plurimis Episcopis, Prelatis, & Magnanibus venerabilibus; statim post dedicationem Ecclesie sancti Pauli Londinensis; ut peregrinantes hinc inde, indistanter remearent.

And in the same year, namely the morrow after *St Michaels day*, the conventual Church of the Canons at Waltham; was dedicated by *William*, Bishop of *Norwich* very solemnly, many other Bishops, Prelates, and venerable Peers assisting him: presently after the dedication of *St Pauls* in *London*, that Pilgrims and Travellers up and down might indistantly return.

It is clear our Church of Waltham Abby is intended herein, * England affording no other Conventual Church.

This being granted, how comes Waltham Church (built by *Harold* two hundred years before), now to be first Dedicated, that Age accounting it as faulty and fatal, to defer the Consecration of Churches; as the Christning of Children? 2. What made the Bishop of *Norwich* to meddle therewith? an Office more proper for the Bishop of *London* to perform, Waltham being (though not under) in his jurisdiction. 3. What is meant by the Barbarous word indistanter? and what benefit accrewed to Travellers thereby? I will not so much as conjecture, as unwilling to draw my bow, where I despair to hit the mark; but leave all to the judgment of others. But I grow tedious, and will therefore conclude.

Anno 1641. King CHARLES came the last time to Waltham; and went (as he was wont, where any thing remarkable) to see the Church, the Earl of *Carlile* attending him; His Majestie told him, that he divided his Cathedral Churches, as he did his Royal Ships, into three ranks, accounting *St Pauls* in *London*; *Tork*, *Lincoln*, *Winchester*, &c. of the first form; *Chichester*, *Lichfield*, &c. of the second; the Welch Cathedrals of the third, with which Waltham Church may be well compared, especially if the Roof thereof, was taken lower and Leaded.

The Earl moved His Majestie, that seeing this Ancient Church, (Founded by King *Harold* his Predecessor) was fallen into such decay, that the repair was

f Collect. of Mr. Camb. M. S. in St. Tho. Cottons Library. g Matt. Paris Anno 1252. A heap of difficulties cast together.

a See Speed his Catalogue of religious houses. Queries on queries.

R. Charles his last coming to Waltham.

Conditionally granteth the repairing of the Church.

was too heavy for the *Parish*, he would be pleased to grant a moderate Tole of *Cattle* coming over the *Bridg*, (with their great *Dristss*, doing much damage to the High-ways) and therewith both the *Town* might be *Parved*, and the *Church* repaired. The *King* graciously granted it, provided, it were done with the privity and consent of a great *Prelate*, (not so late to be named as easie to be guessed), with whom he consulted in all *Church-matters*.

But it mis-
car-
ried.

But when the *foresaid Prelate* was informed, that the *Earl* had applied to His *Majestie* before *addresses* to himself, he dashed the design, so that poor *Waltham Church*, must still be contented, with their *weak walls*, and *worse Roof*, till *Providence*, procure her some better *Benefactors*. As for the *Armes* of *Waltham Abby*, being loath to set them alone, I have joyned them in the following draught, with the *Armes* of the other *Mitred Abbies*, as far as my industry could recover them.

SOLE DEO GLORIA.

FINIS.

Edwino Rich
Armigero
vni e Magist'is
Curiae Cancellariae,
Benefactori meo
munifico, in Gratitudi-
nis tessera.
T. F.

THE SEALES OF ARMES OF ALL THE MITRED ABBEYS IN ENGLAND



<p>Booke 2. page. 123.</p> <p>James Langham Esq.</p>		<p>Booke 2. p. 138.</p> <p>Baldwin Hamet D' of Physick.</p>	
<p>Thomas Rich Esq.</p>	<p>Giles Vandeput Merchadt.</p>	<p>Know reader the Cutter in wood being sick, and the Press not sta- ing his recovery; the armes of my Patrons omitted in y body of y booke are supplied in these quarters.</p>	
<p>Booke 2. p. 137.</p> <p>Edward Palmer Esq.</p>		<p>Booke 2. p. 137.</p> <p>Edward Palmer Esq.</p>	

Tavestock.

Glastenbury.

Midleton.

Abington.

S^t James Reading.

Battle.

S^t Augustin Cant.

Glocester.

Colchester.

Winch-combe.

S^t Albans.

S^t Johns of Ierusalem.

Westminster.

Waltham.

Waltham.

S^t Edmondsbury.

Thorney.

Benetts in y Holme.

Ramsey.

Peterborough.

Crowland.

Tewkesbury.

Shroelbury.

Selby.

S^t Maryes Yorke.

Malmesbury.

Cirencester.

Bardney.

Idem.

Edward Clegat Merchant.

THE SEAL OF THE
KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND IRELAND

By Appointment
Printer of the
Seal of the
Kingdom of Great Britain
and Ireland
1754

